

Tarzana NC
Meeting Support
March 22, 2023

Item 5. NPG Request from Portola Middle School. The actual NPG is attached as a separate item.

Harvey Goldberg <harveygoldberg@sbcglobal.net>

To: Kimberly Estrada, Leonard Shaffer, Heidi Weber, Sylvia Bedrossian
Tue, Mar 14 at 10:45 AM

We are in receipt of your NPG request for the Mock Trial Program at your school and have the following questions and or comments relating to your application.

If you respond to each directly to me by Friday morning March 17th I'll be able to place it on the agenda for the Budget Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 22nd.

1. The comments to item 4 on the application are cut off after the words "...interactively to." Please retype the comments or add another page with the balance of your response.
2. When did the Mock Trial program start at Portola? Approximately how many times in total has the class met since the beginning of the school year? Does the class have a dedicated teacher? Who is the teacher? Where is funding for the teacher coming from?
3. In item 6a what is meant by "Teacher-X-time to prepare/plan-15 hours"?
4. In item 6a who is the Chaperone/substitute for \$250? Is this a volunteer?
5. In item 6b please details the materials to be purchased for \$2,150. How will these materials be used in relation to the upcoming field trip?
6. Does LAUSD provide school buses for field trips?
7. In item 7 what was the request to the Encino NC for? What items and how much money? What was their response?

We await your prompt response.

Thank you

Harvey

Estrada, Kimberly <kk3142@lausd.net>

To: Leonard Shaffer, Weber, Heidi, Sylvia Bedrossian, Harvey Goldberg

Tue, Mar 14 at 11:29 AM

Hello,

In response to your questions please see below:

1. The comments to item 4 on the application are cut off after the words "...interactively to." Please retype the comments or add another page with the balance of your response. Ms. Weber can re-submit it.

2. When did the Mock Trial program start at Portola? Approximately how many times in total has the class met since the beginning of the school year? Does the class have a dedicated teacher? Who is the teacher? Where is funding for the teacher coming from? Mock Trial began last semester for the 2022-2023 school year. The assigned teacher is Ms. Weber and she is copied on the email. The partial funding came from a previous grant from the Council. Students take this class as an elective class. Class Size ranges from 25-35 students.

3. In item 6a what is meant by "Teacher-X-time to prepare/plan-15 hours"? Teacher x-time is used to plan materials such as preparing/reading the trials, selecting which trials to have students present on.

4. In item 6a who is the Chaperone/substitute for \$250? Is this a volunteer? The Substitute would be to cover the her classes (English) so she can go with the class to the Court House. The Chaperone would be a volunteer.

5. In item 6b please details the materials to be purchased for \$2,150. How will these materials be used in relation to the upcoming field trip?

Reading materials (court materials), mock trial student materials. The materials will be used for the class and the field trip will be the culminating event.

6. Does LAUSD provide school buses for field trips?

Yes, they do but part of the grant is to ask for funding for the bus. We need to pay for bus transportation for fieldtrips.

7. In item 7 what was the request to the Encino NC for? What items and how much money? What was their response?

We have not received a response yet from Encino NC yet. I believe a similar grant was written.

Kimberly K. Estrada

Principal

Weber, Heidi <heidi.weber@lausd.net>

To:Estrada, Kimberly,Leonard Shaffer,Sylvia Bedrossian,Harvey goldberg

Tue, Mar 14 at 8:15 PM

Good evening,

Happy to help!

Here is the full answer to Section II (#4):

"Portola Middle School is dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of Civic Leadership and understanding in the classroom to create a state-of-the-art Mock Trial Program at Portola. In fall 2022 we offered Mock Trial as an elective open to all students. Overwhelming student interest allowed us to fill every slot available in the competitive Los Angeles County Mock Trial program through the Constitutional Rights Foundation. Our purpose is to teach students debate techniques, public speaking skills, various court-personnel roles and decorum, and an understanding of how law is applied to facts in our courts. Students prepare interactively to think quickly and analytically before each other and adults, analyzing facts to law, responding appropriately to judges, bailiffs, and other court staff, and determining best arguments based on the facts given them. Students learn how the court system functions as a part of our U.S. government, including standards of law, proof, and evidentiary rules. This program benefits all types of diverse learners and teaches equity in law and civic duties, preparing all students to be future leaders. Last term, 6 of our 30 enrolled students were from Tarzana; two changed their career goals from becoming doctors to lawyers after taking Mock Trial!"

(The form I had received did not limit the response length, sorry!)

5. Materials: for this past year, we purchased:

*Teacher's Guide with reproducible materials from the Constitutional Rights Foundation (CRF), which hosts local/county/state competitions: \$19.95

*Electronic case materials of most-recent CRF case (without DVD): \$5.95

*Class set of 31 individual printed case materials, DVD of final competition rounds, and electronic materials from prior CRF "murder" case: \$113.70

*\$450 registration fee to CRF for fall semester, plus \$50 for additional journalist/court reporters.

For next year, we expect to be purchasing:

\$450 registration fee plus \$150 for additional journalist/court reporters and courtroom artists.

\$550 spring semester registration fee

final rounds of competition fees, depending on student enrollment, from \$935 to \$1150.

Thank you again for your time!

Best,

Heidi Weber